Statement

Sl. No.	Location	Controlling Field Unit	Status of Action Taken to remove the Illegal construction in each case
1.	Mukherjee Nagar	NTR (Mtce.) New Delhi	Slum wing and JJ Department of MCD has been requested for surveying and removal of illegal constructions.
2.	Behind Eastern Court	-Do-	Illegal construction has been removed on 24.4.97
3.	DIZ Area	-Do-	Rs. 4.30 crores have been sanctioned as relocation charges by DOT. This amount is to be deposited with slum wing of MCD on receipt of demand from the slum wing of MCD/DDA.
4.	Keshav Puram Lawrence Road	MTNL, New Delhi	Case taken up with the concerned authorities to get the unauthorised occupants evicted.
5.	J.L. Marg	-Do-	

[English]

Construction of Railway Gates in Kerala

3545. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to construct railway gates in between Calicut and Kannur on National Highway as well as railway over-bridges to help in easing the traffic flow; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are 8 nos. of level crossings between Calicut and Cannanore across National Highway-17 on which Road Over Bridges are being considered on cost sharing basis. The State Govt. of Kerala was advised to sponsor Road over/Road under bridges at these locations which are within the criteria, for inclusion in Railway Works Programme. No such proposal has yet been received from State Government. Necessary action will be taken as and when firm proposals are received from the State Government.

Borrowing from Domestic Market

3546. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Railway Finance Corporation has been borrowing from the domestic market at an interest rate of 16 or 17 per cent, which is higher than the rate of return i.e. of 12 to 15 per cent;

(b) if so, the source through which the interest at higher rate will be paid by the Indian Railway Finance Corporation; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to increase the internal resource generation?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir. As only a small part of the funds raised by the Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) through market borrowing bore interest rate of 16 and 16.5% per annum, the rate of return on funds raised during any financial year has been more than the weighted average cost of borrowing.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Extension of M.E.M.U. Rail Services

3547. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA :Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the present position in regard to extending the M.E.M.U. rail service running between Baroda and Ratlam to Ujjain?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : The extension of MEMU service to Ujjain has been done w.e.f. 26.7.97.

[English]

Demand for Metro Services

3548. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any measures to fulfil the longstanding demand of the people of Barddhman, Bankura, Birbhum, Purulia district to extend metro services in these areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) to (c) While satellite derived metro channel (DD-2) service is available throughout the country, including all the districts of West Bengal, terrestrially, the service is being initially extended to major cities/ towns in the country depending on availability of resources and *inter se* priorities. In West Bengal, DD-2 service is presently

being relayed by an HPT at Calcutta and an LPT at Murshidabad. There are no approved schemes, at present, to set up DD-2 transmitters anywhere in Barddhaman, Birbhum, Bankura and Purulia districts of West Bengal.

Shortfall in Seating/Berth Capacity in Trains

3549. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any systematic assessment of the shortfall in seating/berth capacity in trains going from Delhi/New Delhi to Mumbai, Bangalore, Jammu Tawi, Calcutta, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati has been made;

(b) if so, the shortfall in seating/berth capacity of trains going to the above destinations from Delhi/New Delhi from May 1, 1997 to June 30, 1997 i.e. the estimated capacity plus the unsatisfied waiting lists separately for each destinations; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) the waiting list position of the trains is monitored on day-to-day basis. In order to clear the extra rush of traffic during the summer months, i.e. May and June, Railways ran a weekly special to Mumbai, tri-weekly to Calcutta and daily to Jammu Tawi in addition to the augmentation of regular services. Besides, regular service including the Rajdhanis for Guwahati, Bhubaneswar and Bangalore were augmented to the extant justified and feasible. In case of heavy rush, occasional special trains were also run to these places during the period.

Broadcast of Indian Standard Time

3550. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the clocks being used at railway stations have since become obsolete in view of the introduction of Indian Standard Time through satellite INSAT by NPL, New Delhi; and

(b) the reasons for not introducing this system of indicating time by the Indian Railway at railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The clocks provided at stations are regularly adjusted and synchronised daily with the clock installed in the office of Section Controllers at a pre-determined time. The accuracy of clocks provided at Railway Stations is considered good enough for the purpose of day to day train operations. Introduction of Indian Standard Time through satellite INSAT, which gives an accuracy of 5 micro seconds, is not considered necessary for the train operations at the moment.

[Translation]

Conversion of Passenger Trains into EMU

3551. SHRI LINGARAJ VALYAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to convert all the passenger trains into EMU;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Non-availability of infrastructure necessary for EMU trains, operational and resource constraints.

[English]

Violation of Safety Rules

3552. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a complaint regarding rampant corruption and violation of safety rules was submitted by the then Divisional President of All India Station Masters' Association to Chief Vigilance Officer, Eastern Railway, Calcutta;

(b) whether facts of the said complaint had been probed into by the Vigilance Section; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof and action taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Expansion of Refinery's Capacity by NALCO

3553. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will be Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the National Aluminium Company (NALCO) to improve its performance;

(b) the details of debts position of NALCO as on March 31, 1997;

(c) the time by which the above public sector company is expected to achieve Zero debt status;

(d) whether the company has completed its first phase of expansion programme;